



Journée parrainée par



Ancres draguées et ancres plaques

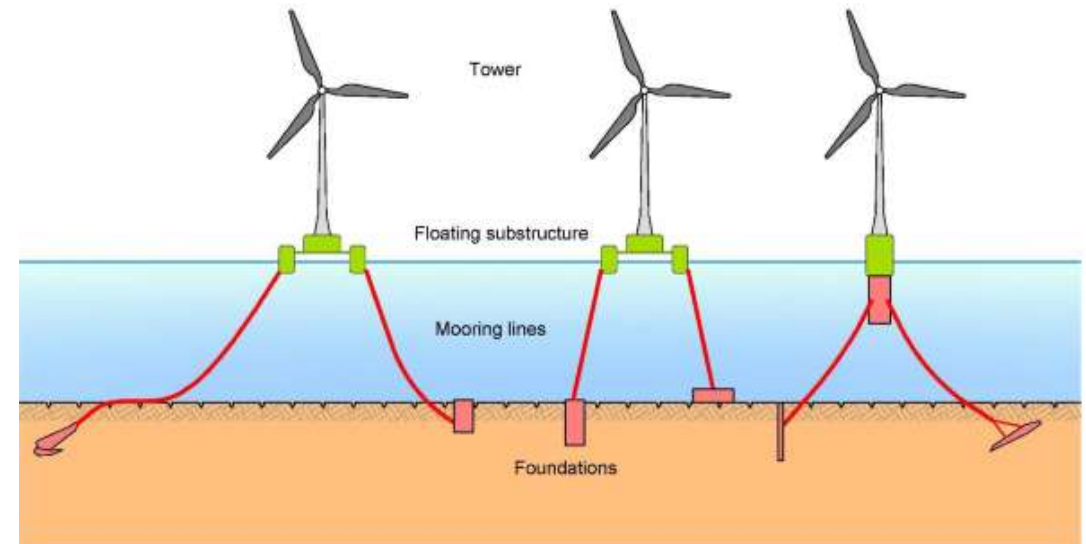
Daniel Orejuela (Subsea 7)

ANCRAGES DES ÉOLIENNES FLOTTANTES
14 MARS 2024

Floating Wind Farm Drag Anchors and Plate Anchors Recommendations

Topics:

- Type of Anchors – General description
 - Plate Anchors – Drag Embedded anchors
- Penetration predictions – Drag Embedded anchors
- Anchor line equations
- Drag Embedded Anchors kinematic
- Drag Embedded Anchors in sand and high strength Clays
- Characteristic resistance of Fluke anchors
- Post Installation effects
- Installation tension and proof tests



Floating Wind Farm Drag Anchors and Plate Anchors Recommendations

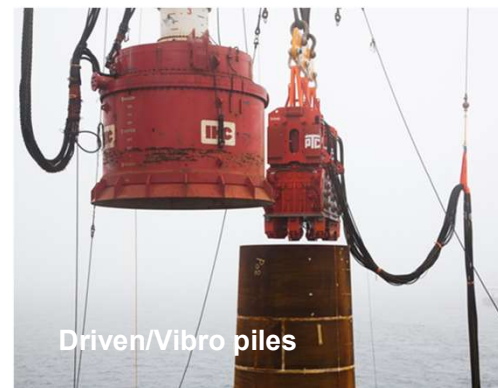
Type of anchors

Anchor Piles :

Driven/vibro Piles

Drilled and Grouted Piles

Dynamically installed piles (Torpedos)



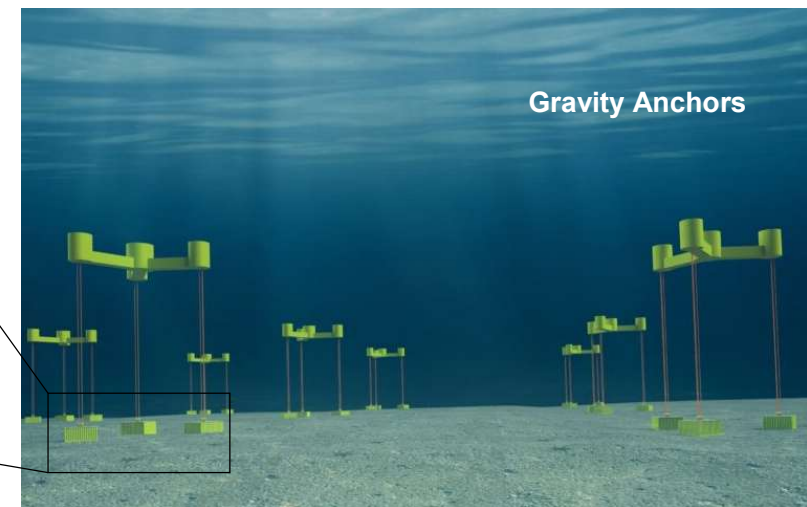
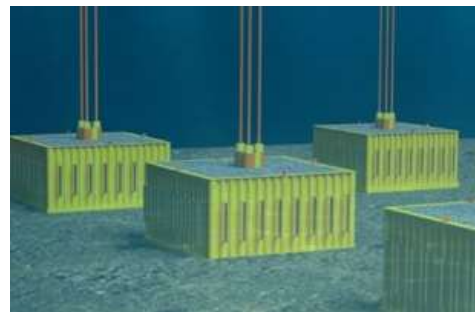
Courtesy of Fugro drilling services

Floating Wind Farm Drag Anchors and Plate Anchors Recommendations

Type of anchors

➤ Suction Anchors

➤ Gravity Anchors



Source: Offshore wind design AS

Floating Wind Farm Drag Anchors and Plate Anchors Recommendations

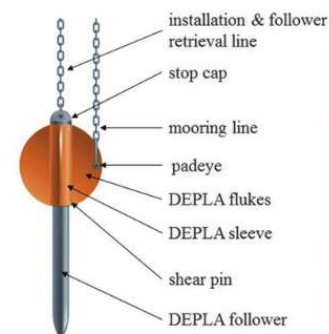
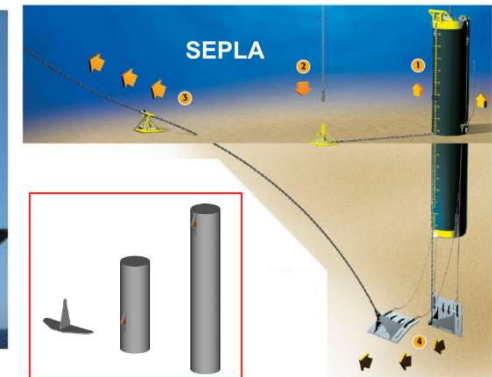
Type of anchors

▶ Plate Anchors:

Push-in Plate Anchors

Suction Embedded Plate Anchor (SEPLA)

Dynamically Embedded Plate Anchor (DEPLA)

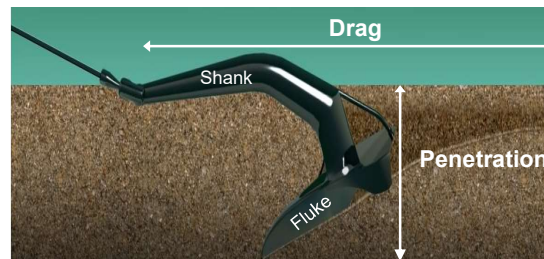


Floating Wind Farm Drag Anchors and Plate Anchors Recommendations

Drag – Embedment Anchors (DEA)

Fluke Anchors

- HHP anchors
- 3x4 to 6x9m – 5t to 50t (i.e. ballasted)
- Limited uplift resistance



Vertical Loaded Anchors (VLA)

- Tension on the line is redirected to be perpendicular to the plate
- Shear Pin
- Require deep burial
- 5 to 30m² fluke area

Prelaid Taut Leg Mooring System

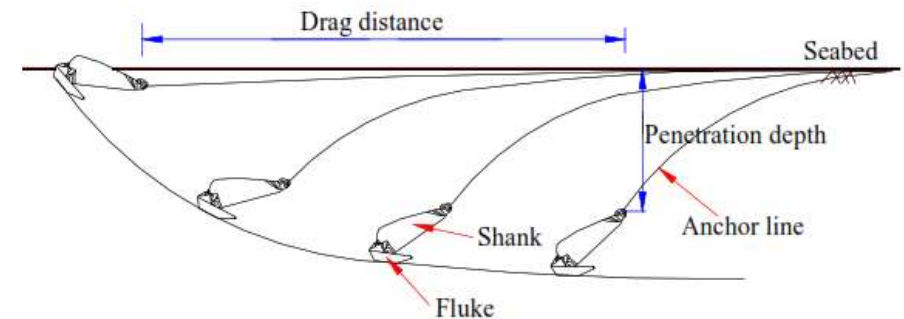
Stevmanta VLA & DEEPrope
Syntetic Mooring Lines



Floating Wind Farm Drag Anchors and Plate Anchors Recommendations

Drag Embedment Anchor – trajectory predictions & UHC

- The penetration and self-burial of a fluke anchor into the seabed is a complex soil structure interaction mechanism
- The initial angle during anchor setting is a governing parameter
- Trajectory & UHC prediction methods:
 - Empirical (Based on manufacturer charts)
 - Analytical approaches (i.e. limit equilibrium and Plasticity)
- Predictions are particular challenging in layered soils
- Chain forerunner / soil interaction influences the anchor trajectory



Drag anchor trajectory in Clay⁽¹⁾

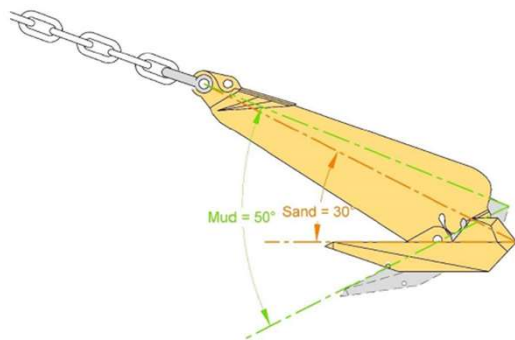
⁽¹⁾ Upper Bound Analysis for Drag Anchors in soft clay – Kim et al. (2005)

Floating Wind Farm Drag Anchors and Plate Anchors Recommendations

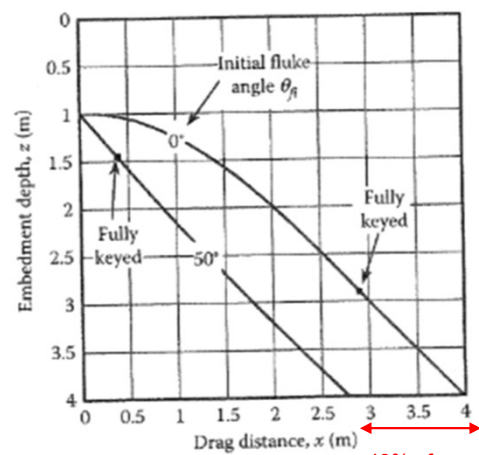
Drag Embedment Anchor – Penetration/trajectory predictions

Effect of the initial angle into the anchor trajectory

- Optimal initial fluke angle for setting stage

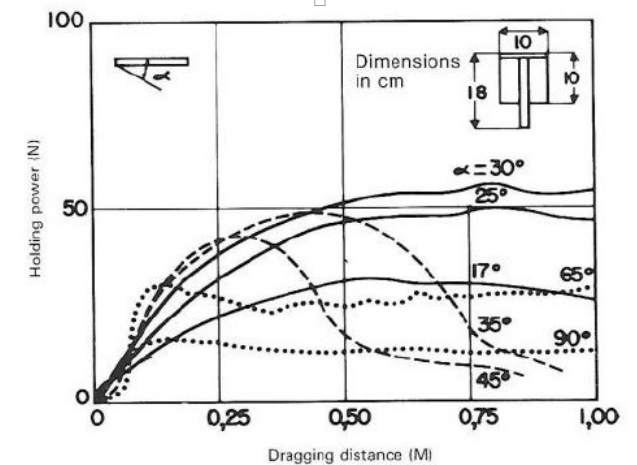


Effect from initial fluke angle in clay



+48% of more drag needed

Behaviour of a scale model anchor in a sand bed ($\alpha=40^\circ$). Effect of fluke angle



Floating Wind Farm Drag Anchors and Plate Anchors Recommendations

Drag Embedment Anchor – Penetration/trajectory predictions

Empirical predictions

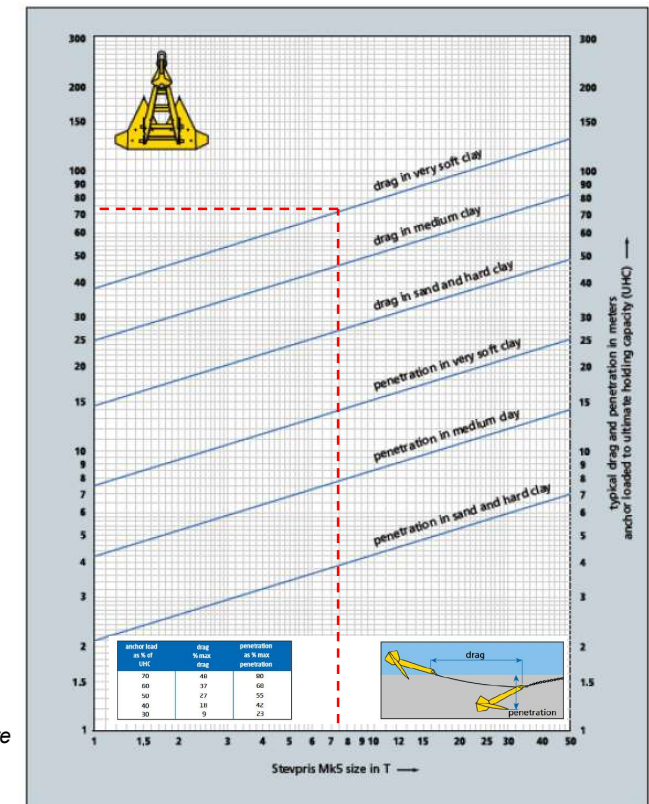
- Based on anchor manufacturer charts
- Recommendations from codes
 - ISO, API, (Based on NEL)
- Charts are provided for generic soil conditions and not site specific

NEL: (Naval Civil Engineering Laboratory)

Anchor type	Normalized fluke tip penetration (Fluke lengths)	
	Sands/stiff clays	Mud (e.g. soft silts and clays)
Stockless	1	3 ^a
Moorfast	1	4
Offdrill II	1	4
Boss		
Danforth		
Flipper delta		
GS (Type 2)	1	4 ½
LWT		
Stato		
Steyfix		
Sevpris MK III		
Bruce FFTS MK III		
Bruce TS	1	5
Hook		
Stevmud		

^a Fixed fluke stockless.

BS-EN-ISO 19901 -7 :Station keeping systems for floating offshore structures and mobile offshore units – Estimated Maximum fluke tip penetration



Example of Vryhof chart for drag/embedmet predictions

Floating Wind Farm Drag Anchors and Plate Anchors Recommendations

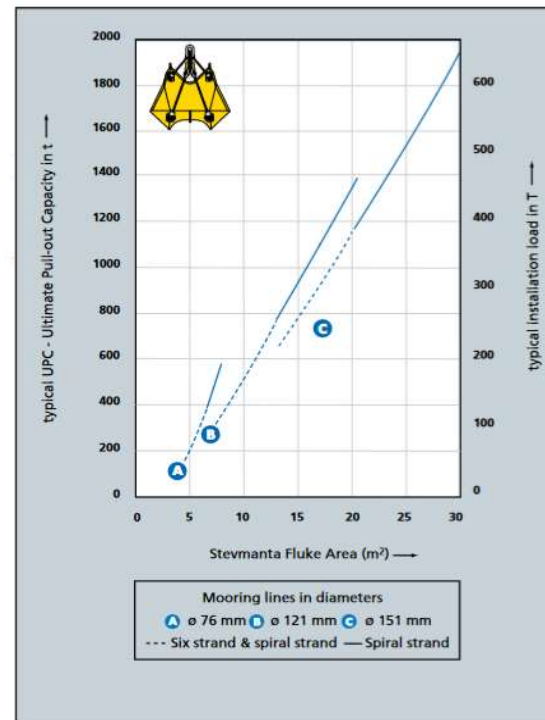
Drag Embedment Anchor – UHC empirical predictions

Empirical predictions

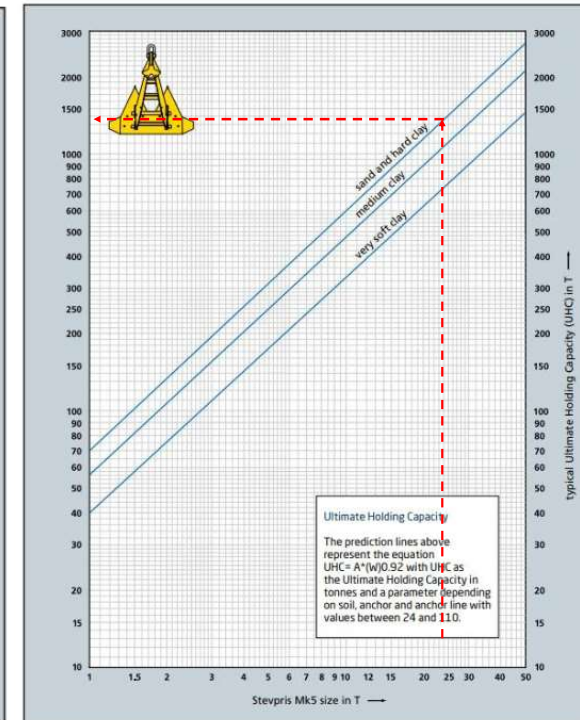
- Based on anchor manufacturer charts
- Recommendations from codes
 - ISO, API, (Based on NEL)
- Charts are provided for generic soil conditions and not site specific
- General practice is to consider :
 - A penetration not exceeding 60% of the maximum penetration; or
 - A resistance not exceeding 60% of the ultimate resistance.

NEL: (Naval Civil Engineering Laboratory)

UHC : Ultimate Holding Capacity



Design chart Stevmanta VLA – (vryhof)



Design chart Stevpris MK5 – (vryhof)

Floating Wind Farm Drag Anchors and Plate Anchors Recommendations

Drag Embedment Anchor – Penetration/trajectory predictions in CLAY

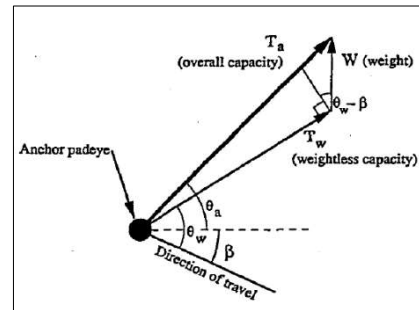
➤ Analytical approaches

- **Based on Limit Equilibrium:**

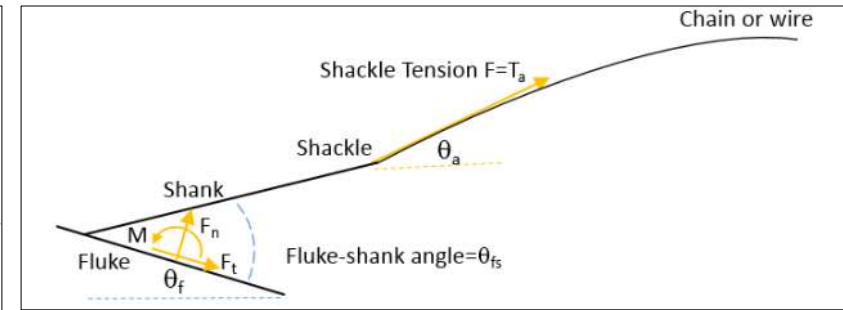
- Neubecker and Randolph*
- DNV (DIGIN software): (DNV-RP-E301)

- **Based on Plasticity limit models**

- O'Neil et al.
- Aubeny and Chi*



Equilibrium of forces model – Neubecker & Randolph

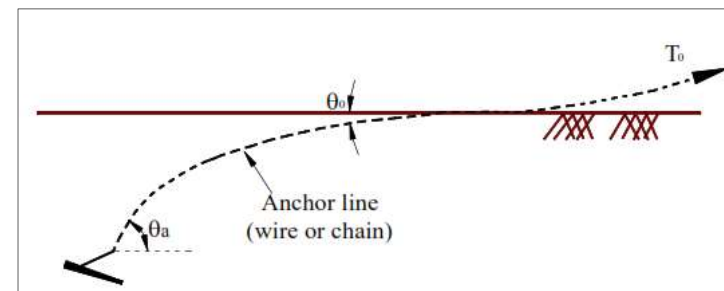


Analytical method - simplified model for drag anchor equilibrium – Aubeny et al

➤ Anchor line equations

- Integration of DEA trajectory & Anchor line equation

* General principles for drag anchors in Clay provided in "Recommendations for planning and designing anchor foundations of floating wind turbines Appendix D" CFMS (2024)



Reverse catenary of anchor line (forerunner)

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Anchor line equations - Clay

Anchor line on the seabed (lying line)

- No uplift during installation
- Seabed friction

$$\Delta R_{fric} = f \cdot L_s = \mu \cdot W'_l \cdot L_s$$

μ = coefficient of seabed friction
 f = seabed friction per unit length of the line [kN/m]
 W'_l = submerged weight per unit length of anchor line [kN/m]
 L_s = length of the slack portion of the line on the seabed [m]

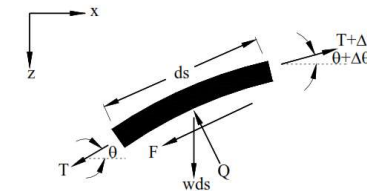
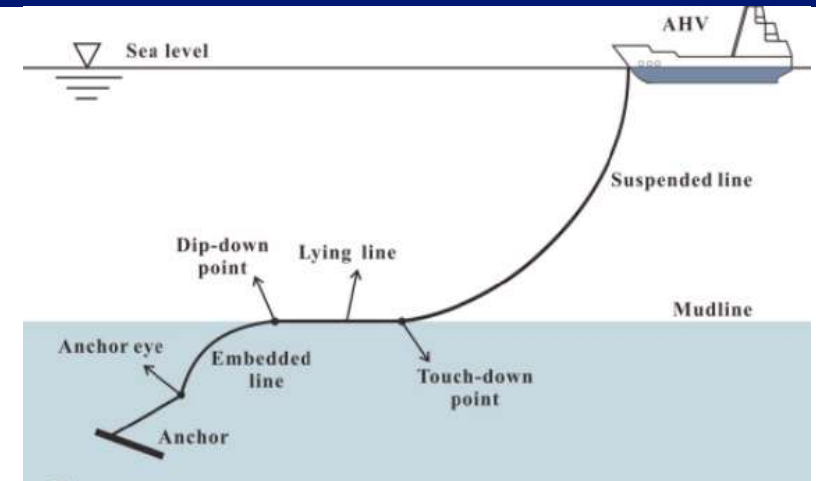
Table C.1: Coefficient of seabed friction in clay from DNV-RP E301 (2021)

Seabed friction $\mu_{starting}$	Lower bound	Default value	Upper bound
Wire	0.1	0.2	0.3
Chain	0.6	0.7	0.8

Anchor line embedded in the soil

- From dip-Down point to anchor shackle
- Reverse catenary shape: Numerical iteration – Boundary conditions (known T at Dip-down, shackle z (m))
- Recommended values of E_n , E_t , N_c & α (DNV-RP-E301) for wire/chain
- Simplified method proposed by Neubecker & Randolph (W'_l neglected)

$$T_a (\theta_a^2 - \theta_0^2) = 2z E_n N_c b \left(s_{n0} + k \frac{z}{2} \right)$$



Force equilibrium element of chain – Vivarat et al

$$\frac{dT}{ds} = F + W'_l \sin \theta$$

$$T \frac{d\theta}{ds} = -Q + W'_l \cos \theta$$

$$Q = E_n \cdot b \cdot q \quad \text{normal to chain}$$

$$F = E_t \cdot b \cdot f \quad \text{parallel to chain}$$

$$q = N_c \cdot s_u$$

$$f = \alpha \cdot s_u$$

Floating Wind Farm Drag Anchors and Plate Anchors Recommendations

Anchor line equations – Non-Cohesive soils

Mortensen (2015)

$$F = N \cdot \alpha_{\text{sand}} \quad N = d \cdot L \cdot A_{\text{sand}} \cdot (0.5 \gamma' \cdot d A_{\text{sand}} + N_q \gamma' \cdot z) \quad (\text{Bearing capacity strip foundation})$$

Line	A_{sand}	α_{sand}
Wire	1.0	$\tan \phi'$
Chain	b/d (~ 3.4)	0.5

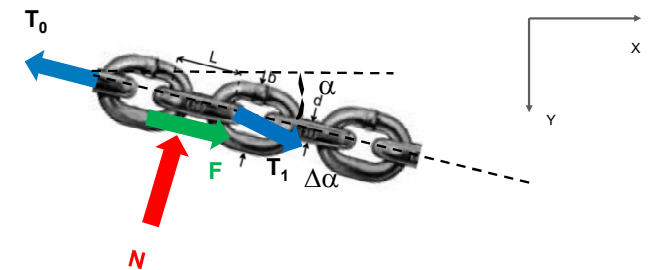
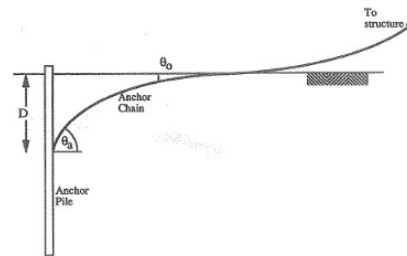
Inverse catenary shape: Numerical iteration – Boundary conditions (known T at Dip-down, shackle z (m))

Neubecker & Randolph (1995) :

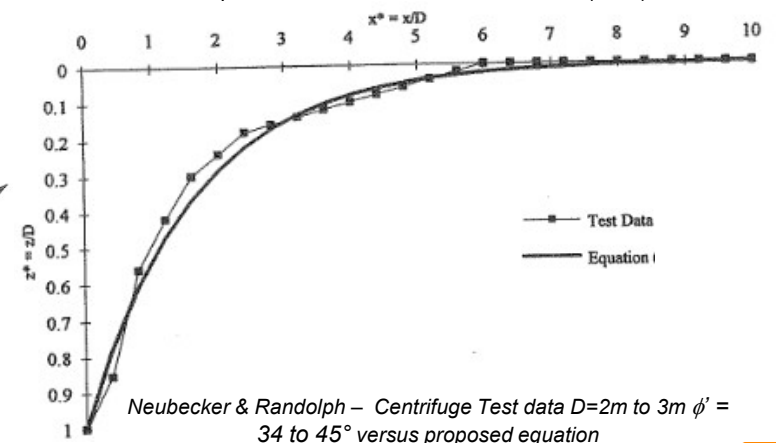
- Exponential relationship to derive the reverse catenary

$$z^* = e^{-X \cdot \theta_0 a}$$

- Good approximation for soils with proportional bearing resistance to depth



Force equilibrium element of chain– Mortensen (2015)



Floating Wind Farm Drag Anchors and Plate Anchors Recommendations

DEA kinematic and anchor line equation in clay

► Aubeny and Chi (2010)

Kinematic of the anchor:

Angular velocity of the fluke: $\dot{\beta} = \lambda \frac{\partial f}{\partial N_m}$

Tangential velocity: $v_t = \lambda \frac{\partial f}{\partial N_t}$

Normal velocity $v_n = \lambda \frac{\partial f}{\partial N_n}$

Anchor holding capacity

$$f = \left(\frac{|c_1| N_e}{N_{n,max}} \right)^q + \left[\left(\frac{|c_3| N_e}{N_{m,max}} \right)^m + \left(\frac{|c_2| N_e}{N_{t,max}} \right)^n \right]^{\frac{1}{p}} - 1 = 0$$

$$N_n = N_{e0} C_1$$

$$N_t = N_{e0} C_2$$

$$N_m = N_{e0} C_3$$

N_{e0} calibrated from
field measurements
(ranges 4.4 to 9)

$m, n, p, q =$ interaction coefficients considered as $m = 1.56, n = 4.19, p = 1.5$ and $q = 4.43$
(Murff et al. 2005)

Ratio Normal /tangential translation

$$R_{nt} = \frac{v_n}{v_t} = \frac{\left(\frac{N_{tmax}}{N_{nmax}} \right) \left(\frac{pq}{n} \right) \left(\frac{|N_n|}{N_{nmax}} \right)^{q-1}}{\left[\left(\frac{|N_m|}{N_{mmax}} \right)^m + \left(\frac{|N_t|}{N_{tmax}} \right)^n \right]^{\frac{1}{p}-1} \left(\frac{|N_t|}{N_{tmax}} \right)^{n-1}}$$

Anchor line equation (Neubecker & Randolph)

$$T_a (\theta_a^2 - \theta_0^2) = 2z E_n N_c b \left(s_{u0} + k \frac{z}{2} \right)$$

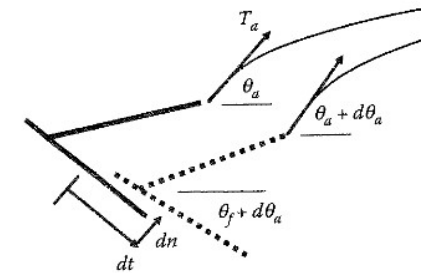
Equilibrium tension at anchor shackle (0° rotation)

$$T_a = N_{e0} s_u A_f$$

Key equation anchor rotation/ padeye angle line

$$\frac{d\theta_a}{dz} = \frac{1}{\theta_a} \left(\frac{E_n N_c b}{N_{e0} A_f} - \frac{k \theta_a^2}{2 s_{ua}} \right)$$

Anchor displacement



$$\Delta z = \Delta t \sin \theta_f - \Delta t R_{nt} \cos \theta_f$$

$$\Delta x = \Delta t \cos \theta_f - \Delta t R_{nt} \sin \theta_f$$

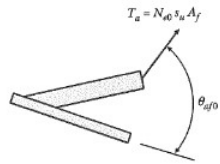
Floating Wind Farm Drag Anchors and Plate Anchors Recommendations

DEA kinematic and holding capacity - Clay

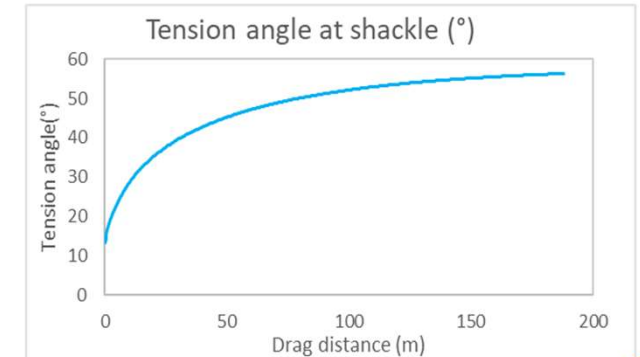
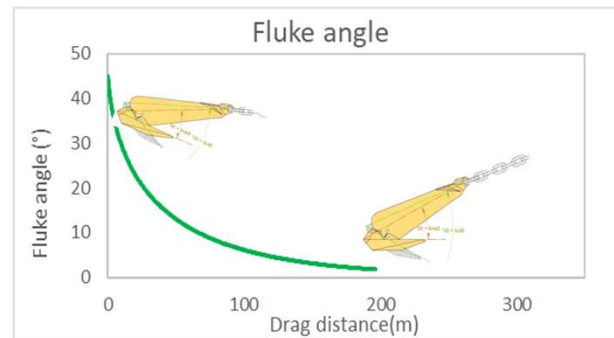
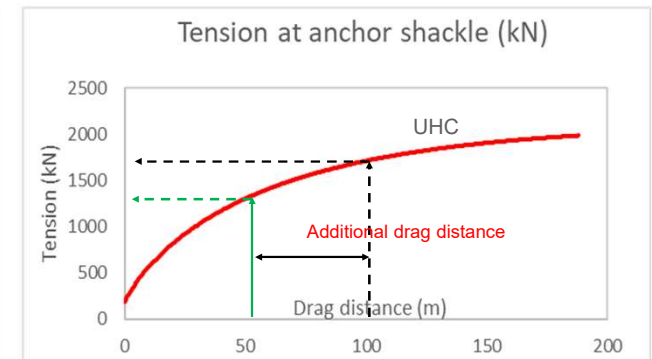
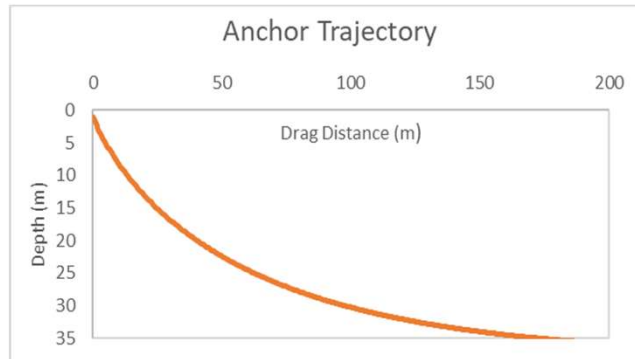
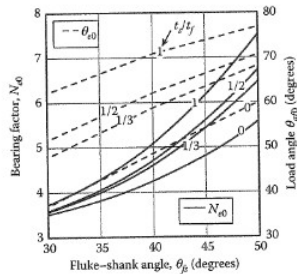
▶ Aubeny and Chi (2010)

- Full drag distance & penetration prediction
- Ultimate anchor holding capacity at 0° fluke rotation
- Prediction for additional drag distance at operation
- Relatively complex
- Homogenous soft Clay $S_u = S_{u0} + K \cdot z$
- N_{e0} bearing factor requires site correlation & depends on multiple variables:

- Shank thickness, Fluke thickness, fluke shank angle



Shank aspect ratio: $L_s/t_s = 6$
Shank length: $L_s/L_f = 1.25$
Fluke thickness: $t_f/L_f = 1/7$



Example using $S_u = 2 + 1.5z$, $N_{e0} = 5.8$, Fluke area $6m^2$, Initial angle $\theta_f = 45^\circ$, line diameter $= 0.076m$

Floating Wind Farm Drag Anchors and Plate Anchors Recommendations

DEA in Sand and High strength Clay – General recommendations

Sand

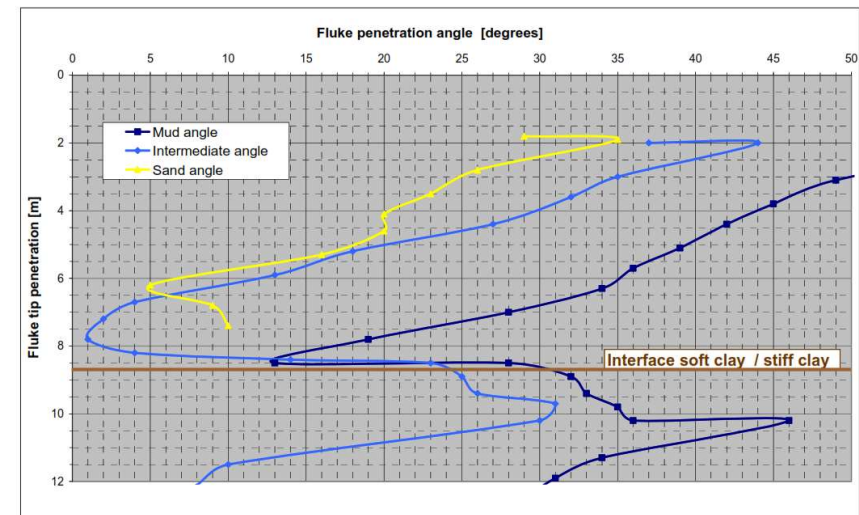
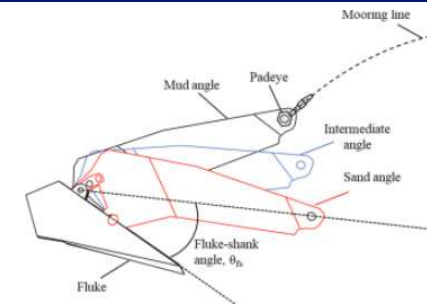
- Analytical predictions similar to clay provided in (Neubecker and Randolph (1996), Miedema et al (2001) and Liu et al (2010))
- Shallow penetration expected, fluke ballast is in some cases required
- In very dense sand, penetration = 1 x fluke length and loose sand 2 x fluke length
- General recommendation is at least one fluke penetration to dump scouring effects
- Drag distances are short : ~8 x Fluke length

High strength clays

- Poorly documented
- Adopt a lower fluke shank angle than the one recommended for soft clays

Layered soils

- Sand/Hard clay transitions or soft Clay / Hard clay transitions (slippage risk)



Predicted fluke tip penetration versus fluke penetration angle for BRUCE
FFTS Mk4 – OTC 20085

Floating Wind Farm Drag Anchors and Plate Anchors Recommendations

Characteristic resistance of Fluke anchors

➤ The characteristic resistance of DEA at the dip down point is defined as :

$$R_c = R_{i,c} + \Delta R_{post} + \Delta R_{fric}$$

$R_{i,c}$: Characteristic installation resistance at dip down point

ΔR_{post} : Post installation effects (cyclic effects, set-up, additional drag)

ΔR_{fric} : Frictional resistance chain/seabed along L_s (if no uplift)

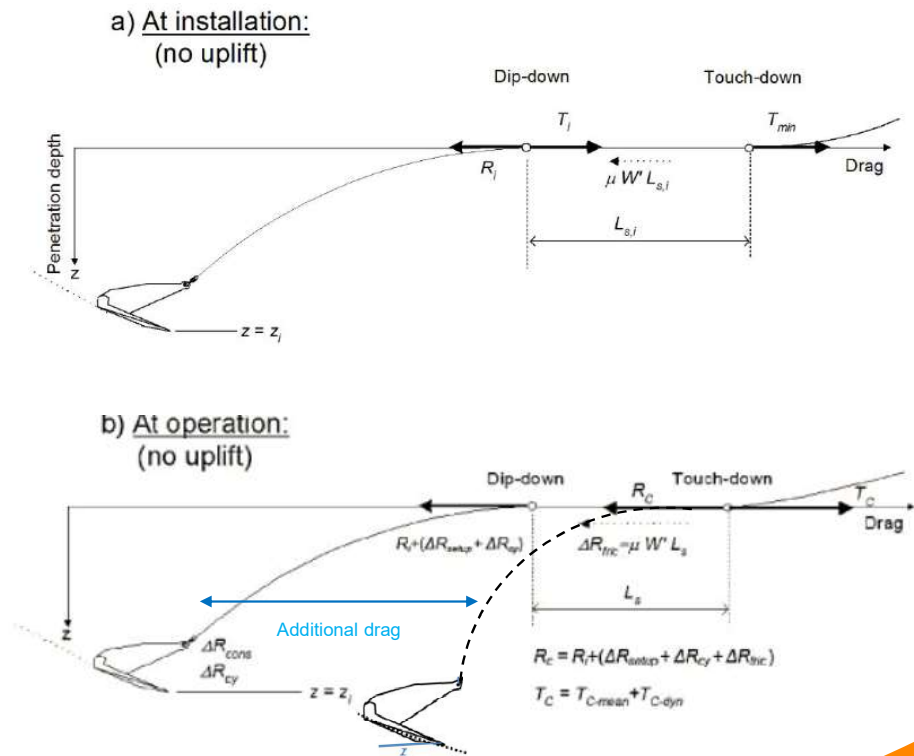
- The characteristic installation resistance is equal to the installation tension (T_i) since measurable and maintained during a sufficient time lapse
- The characteristic resistance with post installation ΔR_{post} effects are :

➤ With additional drag

$$R_c = R_{i,c} + \underbrace{\Delta R_{drag} + \Delta R_{cyc}}_{\Delta R_{post}} + (\Delta R_{fric})$$

➤ With no additional drag

$$R_c = R_{i,c} + \underbrace{\Delta R_{setup} + \Delta R_{cyc}}_{\Delta R_{post}} + (\Delta R_{fric})$$



DNV-RP-E301 (2021) – Tensions at anchor

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Post Installation effects

Additional drag

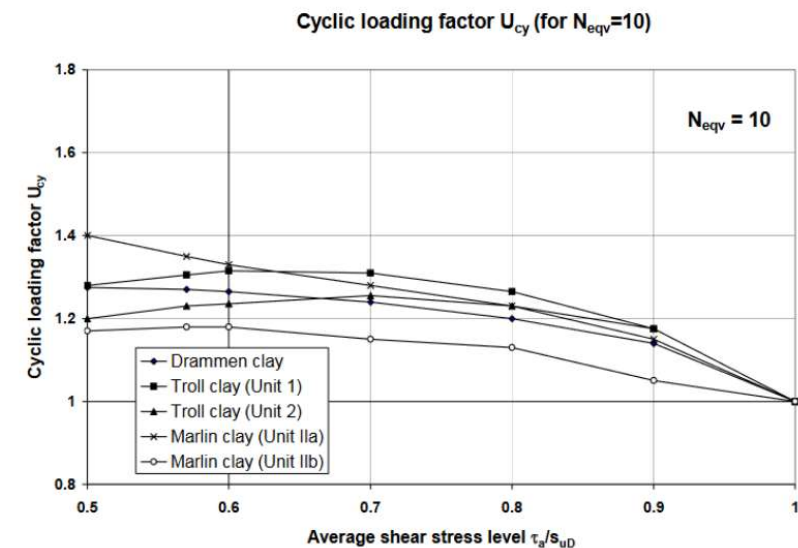
- Allows for lower T_i
- Anchor allowed to penetrate/drag for a design event
- Additional drag mobilizes further resistance (however set-up effects are lost)
- Depending on the project constrains and consequences (soil type & ground uncertainties, mooring configuration, floating wind turbine tolerances)

Cyclic loading effect

- Variation in resistance : combination of rate of loading effects (+) and cyclic degradation effects (-)
- For one way loading the above cumulated effect is (+)
- Special care in highly compressible soils or highly sensitive to cyclic degradation (i.e *carbonate soils*) whose effect can be (-) (*Neubecker et al (2005)*)

Set-up effects (in clay)

- In the direction of the fluke
- Partial remolding (uneven disturbance) : Disturbance Ratio DR=0.5
- Set-up factor U_{setup} $f(S_t, DR, t_{setup}, \text{geometry, depth, orientation})$



Cyclic loading factor U_{cy} for typical $N_{eqv}=10$ (Andersen 2004)

$$R_{cy} = R_{i,c} \cdot U_{setup} \cdot U_{cy} = R_{i,c} + \Delta R_{setup} + \Delta R_{cyc}$$

Floating Wind Farm Drag Anchors and Plate Anchors Recommendations

Installation tension and proof tests

Minimum Installation tension T_i

$$T_{i,min} = T_i + \gamma_R \cdot \Delta R_{f,i}$$

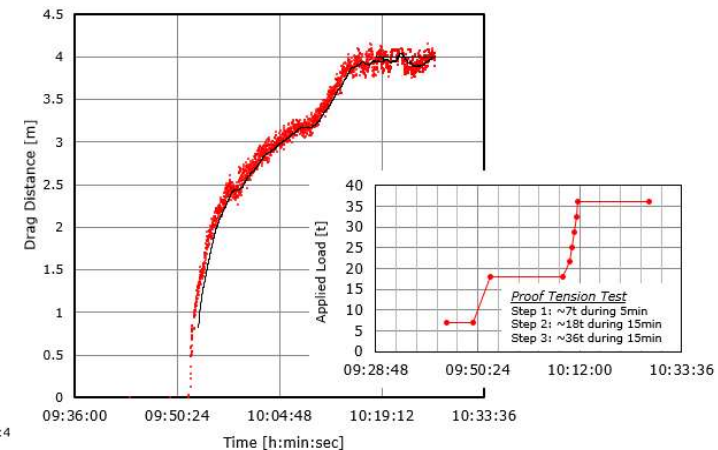
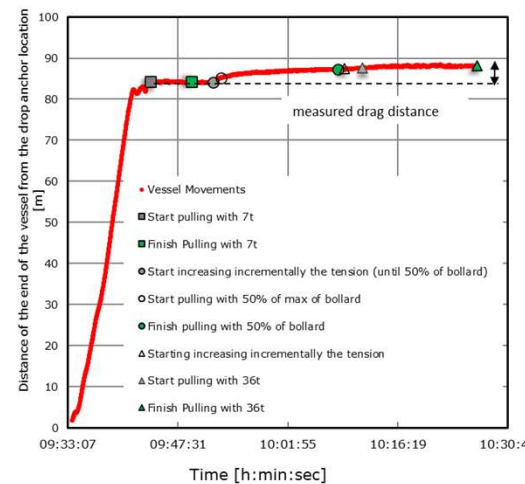
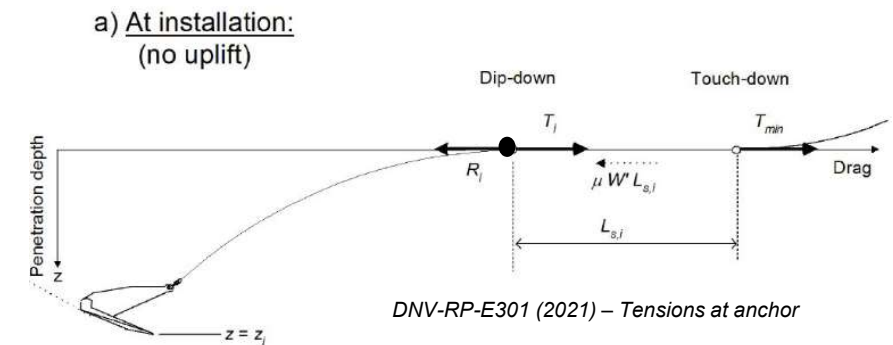
μ = coefficient of seabed friction

W_l' = submerged weight per unit length of anchor line

γ_R = resistance factor

$$\Delta R_{f,i} = \mu \cdot W_l' \cdot L_{s,i}$$

- Minimum tension required at installation to reach the design capacity
- should be applied and maintained for a designated holding period.
- The holding period, influenced by soil type, should not be shorter than 15 minutes
- holding period, any relaxation (i.e. additional drag) should be compensated, and the tension maintained as constant as possible.



Example of proof test – courtesy of Subsea7